

of study. The summary should not include any reference to the specific number of fellowships requested. The information on the summary page will be used in assigning the most appropriate panelists to review a proposal. If a proposal is supported, this page may be used in program publications.

§ 3402.12 National need narrative.

A narrative for the national need area should be written in five sections limited to no more than 20 pages, and preceded by a table of contents. The table of contents is not considered part of the 20-page limitation. The narrative should be typed on one side of the page only, using a font no smaller than 12 point, and double-spaced. The five sections to be included in the narrative are as follows:

Sec. 1. In this section, applicants should establish clearly that the proposed program of study and research will result in the development of outstanding expertise in the national need area for which funding is requested and will do so in a reasonable period of time. Applicants should present a detailed description of the proposed graduate program of study and research. This section of the narrative should contain, but need not be limited to, the following components:

(a) The plan should specifically address the course work which Fellows will be required to take rather than the overall spectrum of departmental offerings. Identify courses, summarize content, and discuss sequencing. Explain how course work will relate to Fellows' research.

(b) Identify and describe areas of research that Fellows will be encouraged to engage in via a thesis or dissertation.

(c) Discuss graduate program examination requirements, such as a proficiency or qualifying examination, a comprehensive examination, and an oral examination.

(d) Include a projected timetable for completing the proposed graduate program of study and research.

(e) If admission to a proposed doctoral program does not require a Master's degree, discuss how institutional procedures allow for the bypass of a Master's degree.

Sec. 2. In this section, applicants should highlight thoroughly any special features of the graduate program such as the extent to which it will involve an inter-disciplinary, multi-disciplinary, or cross-disciplinary approach resulting in the development of expertise transcending a single discipline. Applicants should also discuss any other special features such as development of an unusual collateral specialization in a related dis-

cipline, experiential learning opportunities such as practicums or internships, unique mentoring programs, seminars, or a multi-university collaborative approach.

Sec. 3. In this section, applicants should substantiate clearly the institution's position that it presently provides a major, productive, and recognized program of graduate study and research at the level(s) of study in the area of national need in which selected Fellows would be engaged. Applicants should include evidence of the quality of existing academic attributes and resources of the institution such as teaching and research faculty, instructional and research instrumentation and facilities, library resources, computing resources, and other such indicators of academic quality. Also, applicants should discuss the extent to which graduate students have access to such institutional resources.

Sec. 4. In this section, applicants should document thoroughly the institution's plans and procedures for managing fellowship appointments. Applicants should explain in-depth the plan for recruiting academically outstanding Fellows and procedures for selecting Fellows of superior quality who appear to be highly motivated to prepare for and pursue a career as a food or agricultural scientist or professional. In addition, applicants should cite specific plans for advising and guiding Fellows through a program of study, as well as any special programs or activities that will be offered to enrich the Fellows' graduate study. Particular attention should be given to the plans and procedures for recruiting and retaining members of underrepresented groups.

Sec. 5. In this section, applicants should include important supplementary summary data for the institution relevant to the national need area for which funding is requested. Examples of appropriate data are indices of student quality, enrollments and degrees awarded for recent years, placement of graduates, facilities, faculty research support, and publications of previous graduate students. To the extent possible, applicants should present the supplementary summary data in tabular form.

§ 3402.13 Budget.

Applicants must prepare the Proposal Budget, Form CSRS-703, identifying all costs associated with the proposal. Instructions for completing the "Proposal Budget" are provided on the form. Pagination for the budget page should be continuous following the national need narrative and so indicated in the table of contents.